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Technical Assistance (TA) Missions

Banking Supervision

Afghanistan

To support Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB) 's efforts to enhance its risk management framework, METAC delivered an off-site workshop (in Amman, Jordan) on stress-testing to a group of DAB supervisors. The workshop focused on the techniques of stress-testing as an essential tool to assess the resilience of individual banks against economic and financial shocks in a forward-looking perspective. It also discussed how supervisors can use data to create single-factor sensitivity tests for generic credit risk, sectoral credit risk, large-exposure credit risk, foreign-exchange risk, interest rate risk, liquidity risk, and interbank contagion risk.

Egypt

As part of its support to the Central Bank of Egypt's efforts to enhance the supervisory and review process, METAC delivered a symposium on supervising and assessing internal audit and the internal control function to 22 supervisors. The topics were discussed in the context of sound corporate governance and risk governance, and were based on the latest guidelines issued by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision and the Financial Stability Board. The symposium also exposed the participants to the way international banking supervisory policies are developed.



Iraq

To support the Central Bank of Iraq's (CBI) commitments to strengthen its regulatory framework under the IMF Stand-By Arrangement, METAC's banking supervision advisor and two short-term experts discussed with a group of the CBI officials the regulations drafted with METAC assistance in November 2016 and March 2017. The CBI will then discuss these regulations with operating banks in Iraq before their official release.



Lebanon

Against the background of the recommendations of the 2016 Financial Stability Assessment Program, and to support the Banking Control Commission of Lebanon (BCCL)'s efforts in enhancing its supervision of banking groups on a consolidated basis, METAC organized a



workshop on consolidated and cross-border supervision. The workshop tackled important topics, including risk assessment of cross-border activities, and relationships between home and host supervisors in sharing information related to banking entities operating in their jurisdictions.

Legal Framework

Building upon the 2015 preliminary desk review by the IMF's Legal Department (LEG), a joint LEG/METAC team assisted the authorities in drafting the amendments of the Banking Business Act, to align it to relevant international good practices. In particular the following topics were discussed : i) supervisory powers and responsibilities; ii) objectives, functions and legal powers of the supervisors; iii) legal nature and hierarchy of the norms; iv) licensing requirements; v) ongoing requirements; vi) corporate governance; vii) power to control ownership changes; viii) off- and on-site supervision and supervisory reporting; ix) consolidated supervision; x) sharing information and inter-agency cooperation; xi) restrictions on lending activities; xii) early intervention, resolution, liquidation; xiii) sanctions; and xiv) legal protection and judicial review.

Monetary Operations

To help strengthen the Central Bank of Tunisia (BCT)'s collateral framework, METAC supported the BCT in establishing an internal rating tool for the assessment of bank loans as eligible collateral for monetary policy. A mission explained the structure of rating tools, reviewed the ongoing monitoring of the tool and governance framework within the BCT, and assisted with drafting high-level terms of reference for hiring an international consulting firm to do the actual operational work on the rating tool.



Public Financial Management

Sudan

METAC organized a five-day national workshop to facilitate the uptake of the macroeconomic guidance provided by the Medium-Term Fiscal Framework (MTFF) into the budget process. This was a follow-up to the Fiscal Affairs Department (FAD)/METAC mission of August 2015, which had recommended developing a basic Medium-Term Budgetary Framework in parallel to the MTFF, to demonstrate the linkage between the MTFF work and the existing budget work. The workshop focused on how to develop an MTFF that provides three-year aggregate fiscal targets and projections of revenue and expenditure by main economic categories.

Revenue Administration

Sudan

A METAC mission discussed with the Sudanese custom authorities improved custom administration functions, including concept and practice of post-clearance audits (PCA) and a framework for their implementation. The authorities are considering PCA as a priority, with further work on intelligence, and setting up an Authorized Economic Operator regime, all under the rubric of Risk Management system. The mission also reviewed the pilot risk management at Khartoum airport and advised on how to extend risk management to Port Sudan.

Statistics

Lebanon

METAC assisted the Banque du Liban in preparing a system for regular compilation of residential property price index (RPPI). A mission provided hands-on support on the process of the RPPI construction, including (i) validation of the data sourcing and means to improve them in future; (ii) assessment of the stratification technique; and (iii) applied regression models. The mission agreed with the authorities on a program for the implementation of the recommended steps and the adoption of appropriate modeling techniques for the regular compilation of the RPPI.

Sudan

National Accounts

A METAC mission assisted the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) of Sudan in integrating the available source data in the national accounts compilation framework, following the requirements of 2008 System of National Accounts. The mission supported the CBS efforts in assessing and organizing the results of the 2014 Household Expenditure and Poverty

Survey (HEPS) to measure the informal economy and estimate final consumption expenditures of households.

Price Statistics

METAC assisted the CBS in updating the weights of the Consumer Price Index, based on the results from 2014 HEPS. The mission also helped to enhance the index calculations in compliance with the international methodological requirements, particularly: to apply appropriate index calculations at the elementary aggregation level; update the sample and organize the rents collection, and to adopt appropriate procedures for treating missing prices and replacing product items.

METAC's New Advisor on Public Financial Management

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Xavier Rame as METAC's resident advisor on Public Financial Management (PFM) replacing Mr. Jacques Charaoui. Mr. Rame brings to METAC well-rounded experience in delivering advisory services through innovative approaches and valuable knowledge of PFM issues within various levels of institutional and economic development. Before joining METAC, Mr. Rame was a senior economist in the IMF's FAD, where he has been delivering and coordinating PFM TA to many countries.



Prior to joining the IMF in 2010, Mr. Rame worked in Ineum Consulting, advising the French government on PFM and service delivery issues, and was a lecturer on public management in the French Ecole Nationale d'Administration. Before that, he worked in the French Court of accounts, the ministry of finance, and several private companies. We welcome Mr. Rame and look forward to working with him.

TA Reports

The following TA reports were uploaded on METAC's website during April 2017. Steering Committee members of countries and donors who have signed a confidentiality agreement with the IMF can access the reports @ www.imfmetac.org

	Lebanon
Public Financial Management	Implementation of Cash-Basis International Public Sector Accounting Standards



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METAC Planned Missions

METAC planned missions for May 2017 can be found @ www.imfmetac.org

Country	Mission	Resident advisor	ST expert	Date
Banking Supervision				
Sudan	Credit Registry	–	Jim Aziz	05/21-06/01
Public Financial Management				
Djibouti	Cash and Debt Management, Fiscal and Financial Oversight of Public Enterprises, and Public Investment	Xavier Rame	Abdelali Benbrik Adrien Tenne	05/17-30
Sudan	Medium-Term Fiscal Framework	–	Omneya Ramadan	05/20-27
Revenue Administration				
Algeria	Governance Framework for Sound Tax Risk Management	Patrick De Mets	Tom Story (to be confirmed)	05/14-25
Egypt	Compliance and Institutional Risk Management	–	Rod Ettridge	05/07-18
Statistics				
West Bank and Gaza	National Accounts	Todor Todorov	–	05/07-11

IMF Online Courses

Available to government officials and, in some cases, to the general public through www.imf.org/institute-online and <https://www.edx.org/school/imfx>. Current and forthcoming courses include:

- Financial Programming and Policies, Part 1: Macroeconomic Accounts & Analysis (FPP.1x)**
 Language: Arabic, April 26, 2017-June 7, 2017 (6 Weeks)
 Course conducted online
Apply online by May 2, 2017
- Financial Programming and Policies, Part 1: Macroeconomic Accounts & Analysis (FPP.1x)**
 Language: English, May 10, 2017-June 21, 2017 (6 Weeks)
 Course conducted online
Apply online by May 3, 2017
- Financial Market Analysis (FMAx)**
 Language: English, June 14, 2017-August 2, 2017 (7 Weeks)
 Course conducted online
Apply online by June 7, 2017
- Macroeconometric Forecasting (MFx)**
 Language: English, June 14, 2017-August 16, 2017 (9 Weeks)
 Course conducted online
Apply online by June 7, 2017
- Debt Sustainability Analysis (DSAx)**
 Language: English, April 3, 2017-June 30, 2017 (13 Weeks)
 Course conducted online
Apply online by June 16, 2017
- Debt Sustainability and Debt Management for Low-Income Countries (DSLx)**
 Language: French, April 3, 2017-June 30, 2017 (13 Weeks)
 Course conducted online
Apply online by June 16, 2017
- Macroeconomic Diagnostics (MDSx)**
 Language: English, June 28, 2017-August 9, 2017 (6 Weeks)
 Course conducted online
Apply online by June 21, 2017